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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Albert R. DiPiero and David G. Sanders

Group Art Unit: 2161
Confirmation No.: 2798

Application No.: 09/990,123

Filed: November 21, 2001

For: **HEALTH PLAN MANAGEMENT
METHOD AND APPARATUS**

Attorney Docket No. 40920/1:2

Date: January 13, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Before examination, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of All Claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.